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Valley Women's Voice

April 1983

Volume V ISSUE 3

Do You Love This Planet?

by Rebecca Logan

It is not usual for a review to appear on the front page; however, in an effort to present timely information, we have decided to print this article here.

A group of co-conspirators met on March 3 at the Pleasant Street Theatre, Northampton, to see a film entitled, "If You Love This Planet." The film has been nominated for an Academy Award. It has also been labeled as "political propaganda" by the U.S. Department of Justice.

The Justice Department has ruled that distributors of this film must submit to the government names of organizations requesting the documentary, and must advise those showing the film that a "disclaimer" be read prior to viewing.

The American Friends Service Committee has purchased the film and is showing it to any interested groups throughout the Valley. The Sunday showing was for members of the press and T.V. No disclaimer was read before the film was viewed.

Francis Crowe and others from American Friends and Jeremy Scanlon of the American Civil Liberties Union were there. They brought up two very important points in their introductions and post film question and answer period.

First, it does seem quite probable we're heading for nuclear war. The

Reagan Administration seems to be actually planning to use our nuclear capabilities. In press releases Reagan can be seen to be preparing us psycholog-

ically for a nuclear war and feeding us the idea that there can be life - i.e. America, government, society - after an atomic war. When you see the film, you may have different thoughts.

Our strike ability is increasingly being computerized. Several times, though, these computers have malfunctioned and we've been close to global confrontation. Computers failed 151 times in 1981! In November, 1979 we were 14 minutes away from nuclear war - a war games tape was accidentally put in the computer and the computer thought it was the real thing!

Secondly, it is of concern that the Justice Dept. is setting a precedent by condemning some films as political propaganda. Their actions are an in-

fringement on the constitutional guarantees of free speech. Similarly, it is frightening to have the American president calling the freeze movement the work of "foreign agents," without clear evidence of any kind. It seems to be just an emotional ploy to get people to back away from acting rationally and demanding a weapons freeze.

The film focussing on a speech by Helen Caldicott, reviewed the consequences of nuclear war. As far as the super powers' arsenals go, there are currently enough weapons to destroy all life on earth 16 times. There are 30,000 - 35,000 20-megaton bombs to date. A single 20-megaton bomb has four times the power of all the bombs dropped in

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HOUSE WORK — VALLEY STYLE

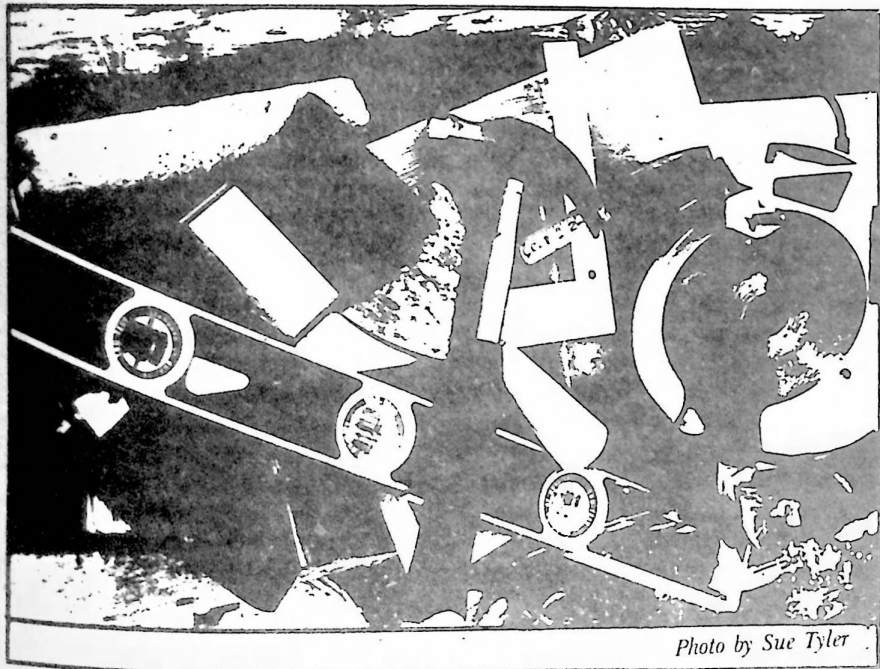


Photo by Sue Tyler

by Anne Perkins

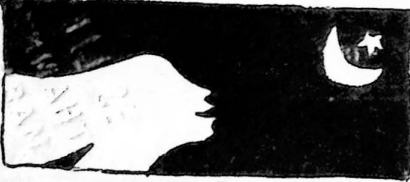
Designing and/or building your own living space can be a satisfying experience. Different degrees of involvement in the process are appropriate for different women. One may have an architectural designer put her ideas into concrete form and then implement that design herself by being her own contractor. Another may draw very specific plans, order the materials, and actually build or renovate the structure herself. You needn't be an expert to get involved -- no one ever is the first time. If you have ever dreamed of doing something like this, here are some thoughts and suggestions to help you begin.

Which Comes First -- Plot or Plan? A house generally should be designed to suit a specific site. Given today's energy costs, it is best to look for land with a good southern exposure to take advantage

of the sun. This may cost more initially, but the extra investment will be returned through savings on utilities. If you have a specific house plan in mind, then you need to look for land that will suit that design.

Designing a Cabin: The cabin is perhaps the easiest design to start out with; that is how I began designing and building. If you would like to try it, here are some simple steps to get you going. First, buy a notebook and write "CABIN" boldly on the front. Then collect information in it. Visit every cabin you know about and take notes -- what you like and don't like about it, what the owner says works well and what doesn't. Find out what materials cost -- call lumber yards, read newspaper ads. Ask people where materials were scrounged or bought at a good price. Ask about

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Letters



Dear Editor,

In your December issue it was stated that the paper was undergoing change and readers were asked for suggestions, recommendations, etc. Since that time I have given the matter great thought and now present my suggestions to you, to do with as you wish.

1. Format: The Valley Women's Voice now presents itself as a newspaper. The term implies news of a recent event. However, since the VWV is only published once a month the "news" tends to be old "news" and coverage of it in a monthly issue tends to present it as such - as old "news". My recommendation is to change to a magazine format with specific areas of coverage (i.e. Health, Mothering etc.). In this manner specific sections could be assigned to specific reporters. Planning for future issues will be easier to do as the concentration is not on "news" per se but rather on side issues which revolve around the "news". Each reporter in charge of a section or department is then free to explore and research information in depth. If "news" is to be the focus, I would suggest a daily or weekly publication to better accommodate recent events.

2. Departments: As stated above, departments or sections should be established and rigidly adhered to for the stability of the paper. A department which can be relied upon to be in each issue will promote consistency in readers. (Myself, I read the VWV only occasionally because I never know if anything that is to my interest is in the paper.) Stories, articles, etc. for each department can be planned and written two months before publication. This allows time for layout, graphics, typesetting and distribution of the paper. My suggestions for departments would include: Health, Mothering, Interview, Lesbian, Political/Feminist and a Reader's Contribution department, as well as Classifieds, Editorial and Letters.

3. Fiscal Considerations: From what I understand, funds are now being generated by selling of subscriptions and advertising space. Grant writing will generate some funds to buy new equipment, but to run any business, running capital is needed. I do not feel that it would be outrageous to charge 10¢ or 15¢ per issue for those women who pick up the paper at a store. Charging for issues will do two things: (a) It will generate some money for working capital and (b) It will cut down on the number of papers needing to be printed. People will be less likely to pick up 2 or 3 extra issues to start a woodstove or to line a litterbox. A side benefit from charging for issues will be a clearer picture of how many women are actually reading the paper. Along with developing working capital, the VWV should start thinking of paying staff and readers who contribute work which is published. A salary often allows for long-term staff who develop experience thereby improving the quality of the paper. Also, paying readers for contributions used will justify the quality you wish to maintain and not appear as if you publish anything and everything because you are desperate to fill space.

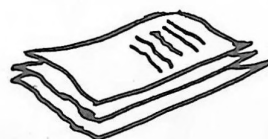
Volunteers are acceptable to have on the staff, however, for whatever reasons, volunteers tend to have short staying power. In order to produce a stable publication one must have stable staff.

My overall recommendation is to fulfill your present advertising and subscription obligations then close production for 3-6 months, re-organize and revamp the entire publication. There is much work to do, not only in terms of organization, procedures and staffing, but also in terms of goals, ideals and principles you as a publication wish to present. A Statement of Purpose which might have been relevant a few years ago may or may not be so relevant today. On the other hand a re-orientation to that Statement may be necessary.

I am including with this letter a few ideas on organizational charts, production flow and time lines. I hope you take time to consider these suggestions. Feel free to contact me if you want or need further explanation of these ideas.

Sincerely,
Dorina Hippauf

Editor's note: We thank Dory for her thoughtful consideration of our problems. We will think about her suggestions. We welcome comments from our readers.



Dear Sisters,

A herstorical Chronology of the Valley Women's Movement was compiled in February 1978 by the Art Exhibit Committee of the Common Woman Club. It includes approximate dates of women's spaces, women's groups and major occurrences that were public knowledge and took place from 1968-1978.

We are currently preparing an update of that Chronology from May 1978-1983. This is an effort in conjunction with a doctoral project on the local feminist community to preserve the history of the Women's Movement in the Valley. Blank copies of the Chronology will be circulating throughout the feminist community, and will be posted at the following locations: Womofyre Books, Valley Women's Voice office, the Women's Centers of the five colleges and the Women's Studies Department at UMass. Would you please get out your old appointment books and any other resources you might have in order to complete information under the appropriate dates. Please include only those

groups/activities in which you participated and which you and the organizing members wish to have made public. If you would like further information or would like to send information for the Chronology in the mail, please contact "Chronology" c/o Valley Women's Voice, P.O. Box 392, Northampton, MA 01061. Thanks very much for your help.

Sincerely,
Amy and Louise

Dear VWV:

Last week twelve people lost their jobs because they are lesbians, and I am one of them. I have been working at my job for almost one and a half years! In our town where I live, about 10% of the people are lesbians; we get phone calls every night.

I can not really understand why we can not work the same jobs as non-gay people. We here have reached the point that we are going to get up and fight. I don't want to give up my rights to be lesbian. But, my friends are scared because they are thinking that the same thing will happen to them.

I want to tell people in the community to fight for rights that you think are right for you; and I want to tell everybody else who is gay or lesbian to do the same thing. I would like to help the lesbian community when I can in any way because I want to fight for my rights to be a lesbian and stay a lesbian! People don't understand why we can be happy to be lesbians or gay men; but, I think sometime they will be able to understand how we can be happy and that we can be happier than them.

Now, all that I would like to tell lesbians and gay men is: "Don't give up what you like to be! Don't drown your happiness away! Fight for it when you have to!" I am doing it; and, I hope other people are doing it too.

Signed,
Erica

continued on p. 10.

Collective Box

Editorial: Chrystalynn (coordinator), Diane Jensen, Becky Logan, Joan Wilce

Production: Judy Hait & Joan Wilce (coordinators), Jacquie, Katrinca, Liz Carter, Becky Logan, Wendy Simpson, Sue Tyler, Jennifer Weingart

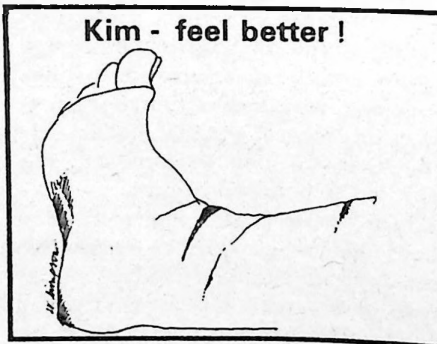
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Photography: Sue Tyler

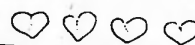
Advertising: Wendy Simpson (coordinator), Judy Hait, Joan Wilce

Distribution: Joan Wilce (coordinator), Fran, Jacquie, Liz Carter, Judy Hait, Diane Jensen, Becky Logan, Sue Tyler, Jennifer Weingart . . . and more hopefully!

Kim - feel better!



HEARTFELT THANKS to Sid, Sue and Katrinca for all the hard work and long hours that they have given to the paper. And, of course, to all the many women before them.



LOOKING AHEAD:

Theme	Copy Deadline
May issue: Women and Sports	April 12th
June Issue: Women In Print	April 20th
July Issue: Craftswomen	May 10th

... Without your support

We cannot continue...

In its five-year herstory, the Valley Women's Voice has provided an important service for the community of women in this area. We have been publishing local and national woman-related news, articles on women's health, legal issues, lesbian struggles, and poetry. Our calendar page is the only listing of local women's events.

We have always tried to make this a paper for all women; but, to do this we need the active support of a more diverse population. We need all perspectives if we are to serve as a complete forum for the lesbian and feminist communities. Won't you join us?

Newsbriefs

New Bedford Rape

Four men have been charged with aggravated rape in connection with a gang rape at Big Dan's Tavern in New Bedford, MA on Sunday March 6th. Two additional men have been charged with being accessories before a rape.

Victor Raposo, 23, John Cordeiro, 23 and Daniel Silvia, 26, all of New Bedford and Joseph Vieira, 26, of Pomfret, CT were originally charged with rape, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years; but, a Bristol County grand jury increased the charges to aggravated rape which carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment. Jose Medeiros and Virgilio Medeiros (not related) were charged with being accessories before a rape.

Police say the men assaulted a 21 year old woman as she tried to leave the bar at about 10 pm. At hearings on Friday, March 11, Bristol County District Attorney, Ronald Pina, testified that the men stripped the woman from the waist down and raped her repeatedly for about two hours while at least a dozen patrons watched and cheered. At the hearing, Pina had not decided whether to charge any of the onlookers.

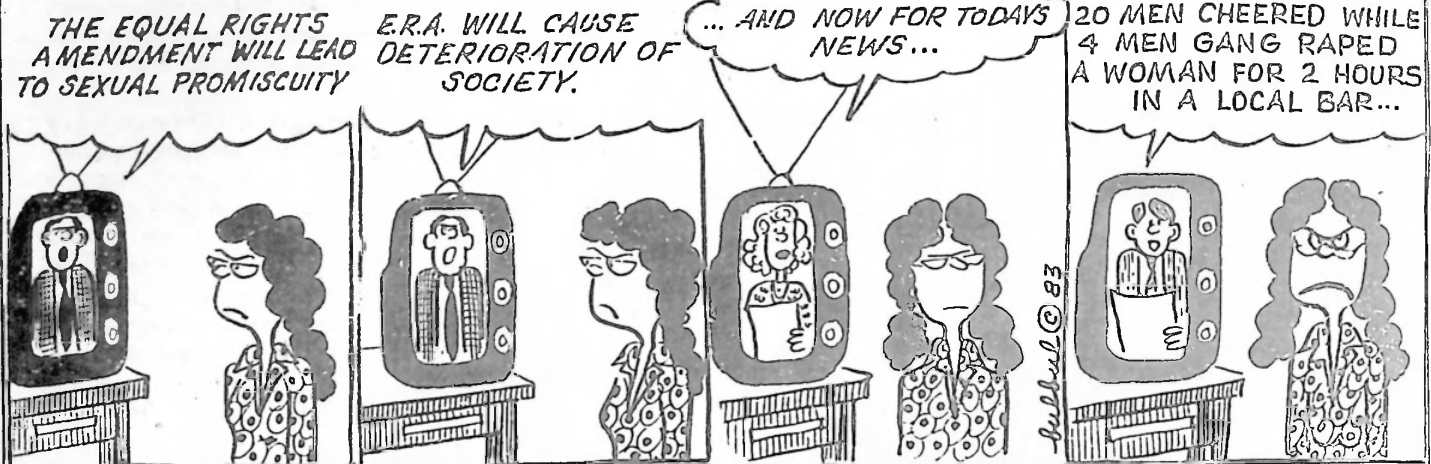
The rape has outraged several women's groups in the New Bedford area. Twenty-five hundred women marched by candlelight on Monday, March 14th and gathered at City Hall for a rally.

On Friday, March 11, two of the accused were free on bail. Officials from the District Attorney's office said they do not expect the case to come to trial before summer. The next hearing is scheduled for March 31st. (*Boston Globe*, March 12 & March 13) ■

Wentworth

A decision not to renew the one-year contract of Mary Wentworth, coordinator of the Poor Women's Task Force at the UMass Everywomen's Center, was reached earlier this week. Wentworth, a former U.S. House of Representatives

HERdles »



candidate is claiming discrimination by the University. She alleges that on the basis of a questionable performance evaluation, the University is "trying to get rid" of her by not renewing her contract. Wentworth has filed a written grievance against the University. ■

Anti-Harrasment Resolution

On March 10, the Amherst Town Democratic Committee passed a resolution condemning the recent harassment of lesbians and gay men in the Amherst-Northampton area. Ben Meskior, a Hampshire College student, who called the meeting, presented the the resolution. Kyrio Spooner, of Womonyre Books, and District Attorney, Michael Ryan, were both invited to speak as endorsers of the resolution.

When asked to respond to the passing of this resolution, Kyrio expressed her belief that as more groups of people come out in the media condemning the oppression of lesbians and gay men, the harassers will begin to back off as they realize that their actions are not approved of. "I am one of the people who believes in publicity. I think that what the people who are opposed to us would want is for us to be quiet, and there not to be an open lesbian presence in this area." ■

Fitzwilly's Hearing

The US District Court in Springfield began hearing arguments in the sexual harassment suit against Fitzwilly's Restaurant, Northampton, MA, on March 18th. Fitzwilly's attorneys are trying to block the woman's efforts to sue for personal damages in addition to workmen's compensation. The decision is expected to have ramifications for all women. ■

Hotline Established

A pregnancy/environmental hotline to answer questions regarding the effect the environment may have on the health of pregnant women and their unborn children has been established by the Birth Defect Center at the Floating Hospital for Infants and Children. This hotline will make it possible for women who are considering pregnancy, or who are now pregnant to get answers about the effects of chemicals, medication, environmental factors, radiation, alcohol, infections, or any other agent that may harm the fetus. The toll-free number is: 1-800-322-5014. ■

bution of the films is not covered by that law.

Women's groups have been protesting for five months, and have tried to pressure authorities to take action against the chain, with little results. One store was the site of a recent firebombing.

While the owners of Red Hot Video claim that the films they carry do not contain violence or explicit sex, a review showed that six of the stores in the North Vancouver area had films of incest, rape, bondage and beating. (*New Women's Times*) ■

Shelter for Homeless

Beginning in April, a new shelter for the area's homeless will open in Northampton. The new shelter, which replaces the Amherst-based Prospect House, will have 20 beds and be open 24 hours each day at 82 Bridge St. The shelter will be open for all people in the area. ■

Police Attack Lesbian

Robin Porter, a 26-year-old Black lesbian, was beaten and arrested by three policemen in New York City after she whispered a remark to a friend when she saw the police using a nightstick to choke a man sitting on a park bench. The police then turned to her and demanded her ID. According to more than 15 witnesses, Robin produced six pieces of identification but the police responded that these were not enough and began to beat her. Some witnesses said that the beating continued with nightsticks in the back of the patrol car. Robin was later taken to a hospital with multiple contusions and hemorrhaging in her left eye. The attack took place in an area of a park where many young Black and Latin lesbians and gay men gather. Witnesses followed the patrol car to the sixth precinct station, where police came out and began insulting and intimidating them. (*New Women's Times*) ■

We are now at a critical point. We have many ideas and dreams of how to improve and expand the VWT. But we are faced with the reality that, UNLESS MORE WOMEN ARE ABLE TO DONATE TIME AND ENERGY TO THE PAPER, THE JUNE ISSUE COULD BE OUR LAST.

We need these volunteers:

6 Ad Reps:

Earn 20% commission picking up ads from local business people. No selling required for established accounts. Opportunity to open new accounts for those interested in sales.

3 Editorial Staff Members:

5 evenings per month for group review, editing, planning of articles. Writing opportunities.

3 Production Staff Members:

1-4 days or evenings/month during production week. Put the paper together for printing. Learn paste-up, layout, and typesetting skills.

3 Distributors:

Drop off papers at designated spots in your area when paper comes from printer. Easy, well-defined job requiring short but regular monthly commitment. Transportation helpful.

2 Graphic Artists:

Beautify your paper and add to your portfolio!

3 Fundraisers/Outreach Staff:

Plan and Organize fundraising events/campaigns; involve the community in the VWT. Subscription drives.

BESIDES WORKERS, WE NEED MONEY. SUBSCRIBE, CONTRIBUTE, or, if you can, BECOME A SPONSOR! Right now we need a new phone-answering machine. Your contributions are needed.

IT'S YOUR TURN TO DO SOMETHING FOR THE VALLEY WOMEN'S VOICE ... if you want that voice to remain in the Valley.

Rhythms of Life: Astrological Cycles

by Ellen Perchonock

The New Age: Age of Aquarius

For more than 15 years we have all heard the phrase "Age of Aquarius" and more recently "New Age" bantered about by the media, by our friends, by professional people (New Age therapist) -- even New Age Music. While you may have some vague idea of the astronomical phenomenon of the precession of the equinoxes (see insert) -- another cycle, which is responsible for the current shift from the Piscean Age to the Aquarian Age -- and while you are familiar with various early manifestations of this coming age, such as the flower children and communal living, the spread of computers and space-age technology, you may not yet be aware of some of the basic energies underlying these phenomena.

The sign Aquarius is ruled by the planet Uranus, the first of the trans-Saturnian planets which takes us beyond the boundaries of our separate egos (see last month's column) and connects us to collective energies and transcendent states. Uranus' orbit is completely different from those of the other planets; it is erratic and unpredictable. This nonconformity, this freakiness, is reflected in the planet's symbolical representation of forces of uniqueness, individuality, willfulness, sudden change, need for total freedom, and independence -- sometimes to the point of rebellion and revolution. But, Uranus is also the Awakener, opening us to new levels of consciousness, with its lightning flashes of intuitive truth and knowledge from a deeper source than the rational mind.

Precession of the Equinoxes

The ecliptic is the apparent yearly path of the sun as seen from the standpoint of the earth. The two points where it crosses the plane of the equator are the equinoxes (spring and fall). The precession is the backward motion of these two points along the zodiac (i.e. the ecliptic divided into 12 equal arcs or signs), with one complete revolution occurring approximately every 26,000 years. About 2100 years ago, the vernal equinox was at the beginning of Aries, moving backwards into Pisces, ushering in the Piscean Age. Now, it is entering Aquarius.

Uranus has the power to shatter the Saturnian crystallized defenses and fears, and to awaken us to our fundamental connection with other minds, and other beings on this planet. It is our link to the Universal Mind from whence come the original ideas, inventions, and archetypal concepts: the power of the group mind which is beyond that of the individual. Note that I am not speaking of the mass-mind, the surrender of the individual's contribution, but rather what results from a pooling of each individual's creative energies, which is more than the sum of the separate ones.

This was the crucial mistake of those early attempts to manifest Aquarian energies in communal living. There has to be room for individual variation and creativity, for each person to feel entirely herself or himself, yet the individual has to take the responsibility to do so in a way that does not cause problems for the needs of the whole community. Most groups ignored the needs of the individual, which ultimately led to their splitting apart, because the expression of individuality lies deep in our culture and it was not nourished. And yet, by living apart from one another too much, we lose touch with that universal feeling of sisterhood and love that is so hard to tune into and to experience on our own or in a two-some. For many people, their first experiences with these collective energies came with psychedelics, at rock concerts, at political rallies, and other vast gatherings of the late 60's, and being together with peers who had shared beliefs about changing the world; thereby, putting their shared ideals and visions into practice. It's not just some sort of mass emotions that overwhelm us in waves. It's a very conscious sense of a shared purpose. We are the generation that is here to help begin to put these Aquarian ideals into practice and to bring about needed fundamental changes in our relationship to the world and all its peoples, to our environment and the planet itself, if we are to survive and evolve. Sometimes we can only

remember this purpose when we are gathered together with our peers, because these communities, these networks of support and shared concerns, are the means for bringing about these changes, not just politically but in every realm of life.

The departing Age of Pisces (ruled by the planet Neptune) has been characterized by some of the more negative manifestations of Neptune's energy: "blind faith", devotion to an external god, carried to extremes of martyrdom, religious fanaticism, as well as the "cold logic" and more materialistic orientation of the opposite sign's (Virgo) influence. We are currently in the transition period between ages with the "New Age" energies becoming more apparent within the next century. This developing Aquarian Age is characterized by Uranian energies: an egalitarian society, with equal rights for all, a scientific, knowledge-seeking orientation, with both faith and "pure" reason giving way to a more "intuitive knowing" approach (cf. the increasing popularity of "holistic" concepts). In this regard, let us note that astrology, ruled by Uranus, is one of the true New Age sciences, as well as other Uranus-ruled areas such as electromagnetic energies, electronics and computer technology, air travel, "experimental" and freer types of sexual relations. On a deeper level, there is a change of consciousness occurring, an awareness of the interrelatedness of all life systems on

this planet. Such change is not easy, and the disintegration of old ways of thinking and living (it has been predicted by Edgar Cayce) will be accompanied by literal "earth changes" (earthquakes, polar and climatic shifts, etc.). Out of this Uranian chaos will eventually develop a spiritual awareness, a realization of the "god"-like power of uniting all our individual inner creative, subtle energies together in groups and planetary networks, all of which can build new conceptual forms and social structures to give a practical reality (Saturn) to the seed vision of the 60's -- a world of harmony, love and joy. And with the widespread growth of this expanded awareness, we will heal ourselves and our mother earth.

Postscript: To answer a common question, someone who is (has their Sun in) Aquarius will not necessarily have radical ideas or other qualities given above. The "old" ruler of Aquarius is Saturn, and an Aquarian may appear to be rather conventional or even conservative in behavior (Uranus-side not yet awakened), although, even so, they will usually be tolerant of differing views or refreshingly open-minded; or they may be a blend of both planetary influences.

This month:

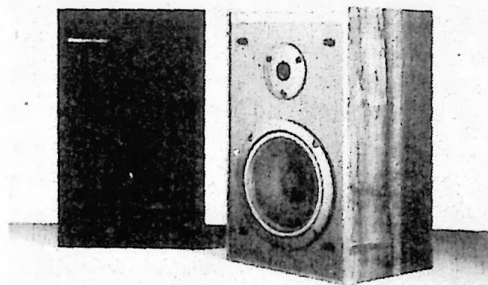
Sun enters Taurus, April 20, 10:50 AM, E.S.T. New Moon in Aries, 22★50', April 13, 2:58 AM, E.S.T. Full Moon in Scorpio, 6★26' (Sun at 6-26 Taurus), April 27, 2:31 AM, E.D.T. ■

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Legal Rights Of The Deaf

by Susan Ritter

for the Northampton Law Collective

A Deaf Rights Bill (Senate Bill No. 556) has been submitted to the Massachusetts legislature, which addresses several problems frequently encountered by the deaf and hearing impaired.

The first issue is equal access to housing. If the bill is passed, landlords and sellers of real estate would be prohibited from rejecting persons as tenants or buyers either because they are deaf or hearing impaired or because they have a hearing guide dog.

Public accommodations are often denied to dog trainers and the dogs. The bill provides for a fine up to \$300.00 to anyone depriving the Deaf or hearing impaired dog owner or certified trainer to public accommodations.

Telephone communication: The special equipment (TTY's) enabling the profoundly deaf to communicate by telephone now costs \$400 - \$700. In addition, toll calls take 3 times the time to make, so TTY users have to pay 3 times the cost for these calls. The bill requires that the telephone company, over a four year period, distribute free TTY equipment to any deaf or hearing impaired person who desires it. It also requires that toll rates be reduced for

within-state calls to compensate for the longer time required.

Interpreters for legal situations: The bill extends the provisions of existing law to provide for interpreters in a variety of legal situations including licensing boards, administrative hearings, upon the time of the arrests, and for the meetings between court appointed counsel and the client; it also provides for reasonable compensation of trained, professional interpreters.

This bill is sponsored by the Massachusetts State Association of the Deaf and the Massachusetts Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

Written support of the Bill can help to ensure its passage. Write to your state senator or representative at the Statehouse, Boston, MA 02133. Or address letters to: Joseph Denucci, Chair Human Services Committee of the House; Rep. Timothy Basset, Chair Commerce and Labor Committee; Sen. Jack Bachman, Chair Human Services Committee of the Senate; Sen. Robert Wetmore, Chair Commerce and Labor Committee of the Senate. The Sponsors would appreciate copies of your letters sent MSAD/MASS Red, 215 Brighton Avenue, Allston, MA 02134.

The Northampton Law Collective has a copy of this bill, if you wish to see it. ■

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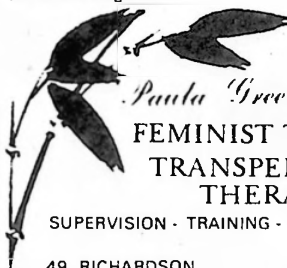
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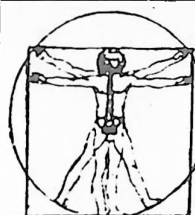
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WOOD, GLASS, AND GRACE

by Joan Wilce

Photos by Sue Tyler

Seen from the south, it is a graceful three-story house cut into a hillside, with a wall of glass. Inside, on the second and "living" floor, the south wall seemed like no wall at all. Its broad view flowed down the grassy slope and over fields to high distant hills.

In other directions the open-beamed kitchen, dining, and living spaces were defined by sculptured blends of wood, brick, iron, copper, terracotta, marble.

We sat around a glass-topped table made from a refinished old wooden Studebaker carriage wheel mounted on a modern oak base. Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" softly complemented the picture as owners Jan Raymond and Pat Hynes described for the VWV the structure and their experiences in the designing and finishing of this remarkable house.

Raymond, professor of Women's Studies at UMass, and Hynes, an environmental engineer, trace their history in house design back to a two-story sun space they added to their former home. "That was my engineering master's project," Hynes explained. That experience plus all the remodeling they did to convert the house to three apartments, she said, "gave us a lot of confidence in our skills."

They were looking for another old house to retrofit for more extensive solar living when they found a perfect site. They decided to build. Though Hynes was largely responsible for the engineering design, both women created the esthetic features and finished the interior. Here, topic by topic, in excerpt and

paraphrase, is their joint account of how they did it. (Actual speaker is identified only when necessary.)

On doing it themselves: "Once we found the land and knew we would build rather than buy, designing and finishing the house ourselves was something we just took for granted."

The engineer's part: (PH) "This is what you call a super-insulated, passive-solar house with active storage. The basic construction design is one I found in a civil engineering magazine. It involves double-studded walls a foot thick. Studs are off-set by six inches to prevent heat loss from one stud through another. The inside wall is the load-bearing wall, that is, the beams are supported by the inside studs.

"Getting the basic design took about two months. I used a computer model to test it. To do this, you put insulation figures, window area, and general construction information into the computer; then the model simulates the energy performance of your proposed house over a full year for this area. The computer told us our design was fine; but we would need about 200 gallons of oil or its BTU equivalent in back-up heating. We chose to go with wood, so that means about two cords."

On insulation: The super-insulation feature is at least as significant as the solar component, if not more so. The south wall, the only one *not* a foot thick (where the glass is), is insulated with Thermax, two inches of which have the same R-value (resistance to cold) as six inches of standard, fiberglass bats. Hynes and Raymond confessed to using a bit more



Large southern windows provide this home's primary source of heat -- and a beautiful view.

glass than required for solar heating. "The view, you see..." And we did. To cut down heat radiation at night, they close conventional drapes "with space-age liners -- a Sears special."

The roof overhang and 15 inches of cellulose in the attic keep the house from overheating in summer. The Thermax-lined foundation makes a big difference, winter and summer.

On their active storage system: "We have a sand bed beneath the cellar floor. To use it, a fan draws air from the house, blows it through the sand, and returns it. We haven't really needed it yet in the winter, even when we were away last year for a week during a very cold spell. It has been nice to have in summer, though, for cooling when the outside temperature gets to the mid-nineties."

On utilities: "We have an all-electric house with a monthly bill of about \$45. That includes hot water. We prepared the house for solar collectors but are waiting to see what improvements come on the market. We may want to consider wind power instead. We have the site for it, and it may be more cost-effective."

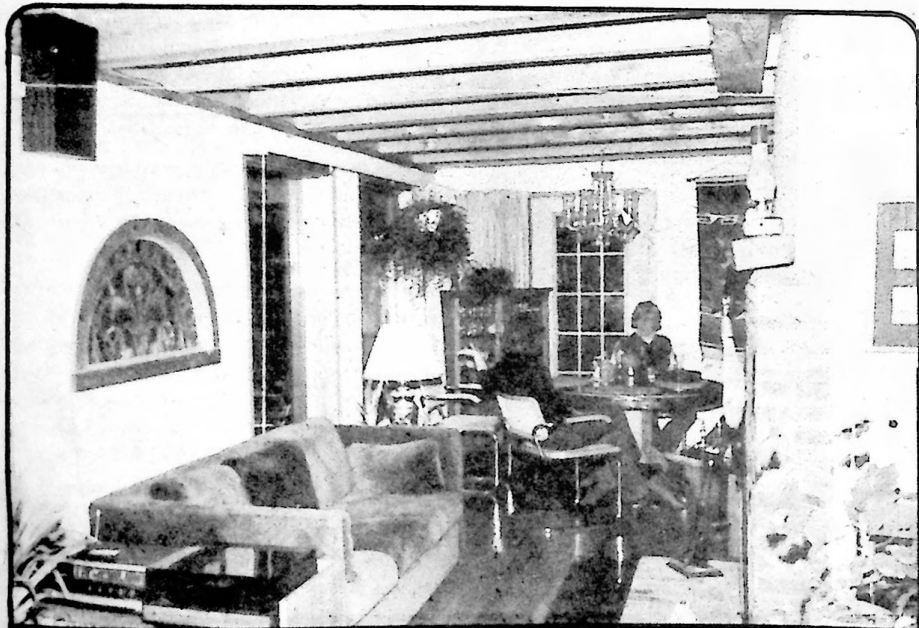
On interior design: "We spent hours pouring over magazines, books, finding

pictures we liked and going with them or modifying them in some way. That's how we got the idea for the stained-glass window. And we did a lot of scavenging from junkyards -- the marble pastry board, the 'sun window' -- we collected these pieces for a couple of years, not knowing what we'd do with them, but knowing we'd have a place for them someday." Another example was the green marble rectangle that fronted the fireplace hearth. "It obviously just had to go there -- it didn't fit anywhere else."

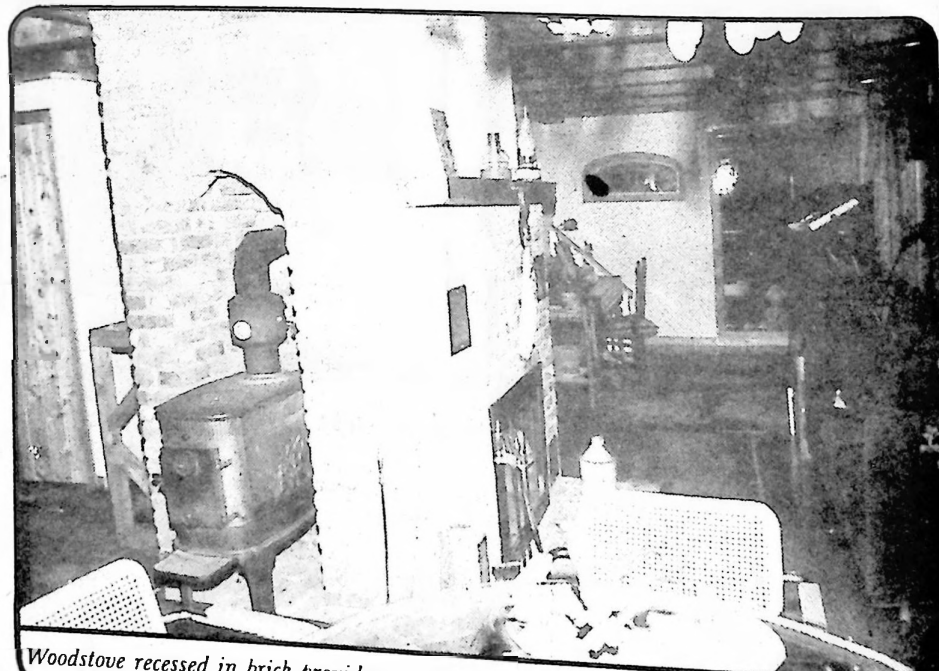
On building: "The real joy of it was working it all out. While it was actually going up we were living in Gloucester and got out to see the house only once a week. We might have made a few structural changes, like shifting the orientation of the central chimney, but once the concrete was poured, it was too late. The builder, Howard Kobin, did a fine job."

On finishing the interior: "We moved in when the house was structurally complete, but we still had to sand the sheetrock, paint, lay the tile, finish the trim. The tile was quite a job, but we particularly like the Mexican terracotta

continued to page 7



This interior was finished by the owners: paint, tile, trim and all



Woodstove recessed in brick provides even warmth to back up a passive solar heating system.

continued from page 6

in the kitchen -- it looks good whether clean or not!"

On fireplaces: "We asked the builder to give us a Rumford design. Rumford was a contemporary of Ben Franklin's and designed a fireplace that gives you 20% to 25% efficiency rather than the 5% you can count on from a standard design."

On the basement: "With no central heating, we had to count on the concept of an underground house really working for the lower level. With the earth-berm around the north, east and west walls, the cellar is incredibly buffered." The basement's south wall, however, delights the gardener. Here, glass was not

just for heating and for enjoying the view, it became, in addition, a greenhouse -- growing chard, which, from the look of it, would soon be on the table.

Hynes has shared her technical knowledge with local women builders who wanted to understand the principles behind a builder's rules of thumb. Using

the house, both as classroom and workbook, she had students solve problems, then work back to the actual construction. "They discovered that the house is overbuilt," Hynes recommends overbuilding. "In an exposed beam house," she explained, "the look is important." And it certainly looked good. ■

GROUP EFFORT IN BUILDING



Centrally located wood stove heats two floors.

by Susan Johnson

Photos by Sue Tyler

A rural community of women is beginning to live self-sufficiently; but it takes time. One house emerges; a cabin is finished. I find it inspiring and strengthening to see women's dreams, ideas and plans actualize. Although some individuals may be skilled in cabinet-making, masonry, electrical work or plumbing, the way to get a house built is *with a lot of help from a lot of friends*. Recently, I spoke with a group of women who agreed that it helps all of us to know what other women have done/are doing. Much of our discussion centered around last summer's efforts to put Georgina's plans into 3-dimensional form.

I first met Georgina Kish when she was trying to get her body stronger in preparation for the work needed to get her design from paper to reality. Georgina is a finishing carpenter/furniture maker who, early in this house-building effort, drove her cohorts wild by demanding 1/32" in accuracy. Time and experience has modified her view. Reminiscing on the event brought our round-table to a whoop of good-natured guffaws. However, her house definitely has the look that great care went into its construction. Georgina is quick to add that although many women working on the house were skilled, there numbered some who had never even held a hammer. By the end of the summer they had done so - a lot.

Much of this effort happened as weekend work/parties. Those who shared this experience have fond memories of much productive learning with good friends, being out-of-doors and

lots of good food. One woman noted the injury rate was impressively low. Listening to the conversation, I would guess trust, love and support for one another to be the cause. Among those who joined Georgina to help build this house were: Sharon Gensler, Janet Burstein and Prudy Smith.

Sharon, an electrical apprentice, explained that the wood used for building the house was obtained through a deal with a sawyer. He got lumber from the land in exchange for dimensional lumber for the women to use. This, she said, "made it happen" in terms of finances.

Janet is a carpenter who is also acquiring masonry skills. She prefers to think of herself as an "owner-builder", a concept others echoed describing a lifestyle/philosophy of self-sufficiency via acquisition of new skills.

Prudy, another owner-builder, who signed in as a nail-pounder (though she can credit a previously built house to her nail-pounding) soon will be putting up another structure. She too will be dependent on this widening circle of cooperative effort.

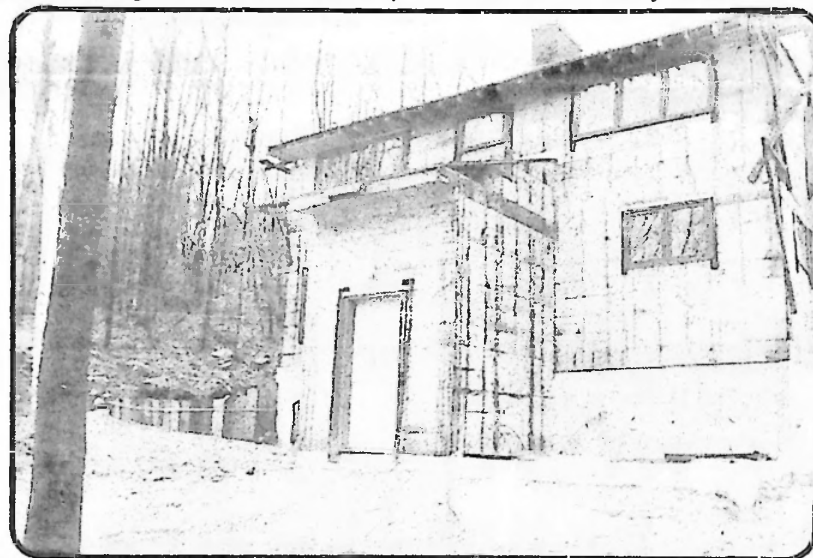
The group, sitting around the kitchen table in Georgina's partially completed house, started explaining basic concepts in passive solar or solar tempered, super-insulated construction. The house needs at least 12" of insulation between two walls. This is called doubled-walled construction. Window space here is 8-10% of floor space. This house is facing south with no north windows. A greenhouse, root cellar, workshop and sauna are planned for the near future.

Equally important as house design to

the group is the environment surrounding the structure. This group has a particular philosophy, permaculture, which means a non-invasive attitude of caretaking vs management/control of land as well as appreciating and participating in the cycles that exist. They are opposed to the recently traditional "blast and replant" mode of house building. Working with the environment rather than against it, we brought up ideas of self-sustaining agriculture (perennials, non-hybrid self-sowing seeds, weed appreciation), fencing chickens with mulberry

bushes (food and fence), using fruit trees as edible hedgerow, controlling erosion with plantings and considering trees for northern wind breaks. The idea seemed to be to work hard at that cooperative effort to be *with* the environment -- and *with* each other. Women building houses is a good way to learn to do it. ■

(Georgina designed her own house and has worked with other women to get their plans together. She and Sharon are available for consultation. Contact them via the *Valley Women's Voice*.)



House in progress. Above: South side awaits greenhouse. Below: sun and plants warm this future living room.



ATTIC METAMORPHOSIS



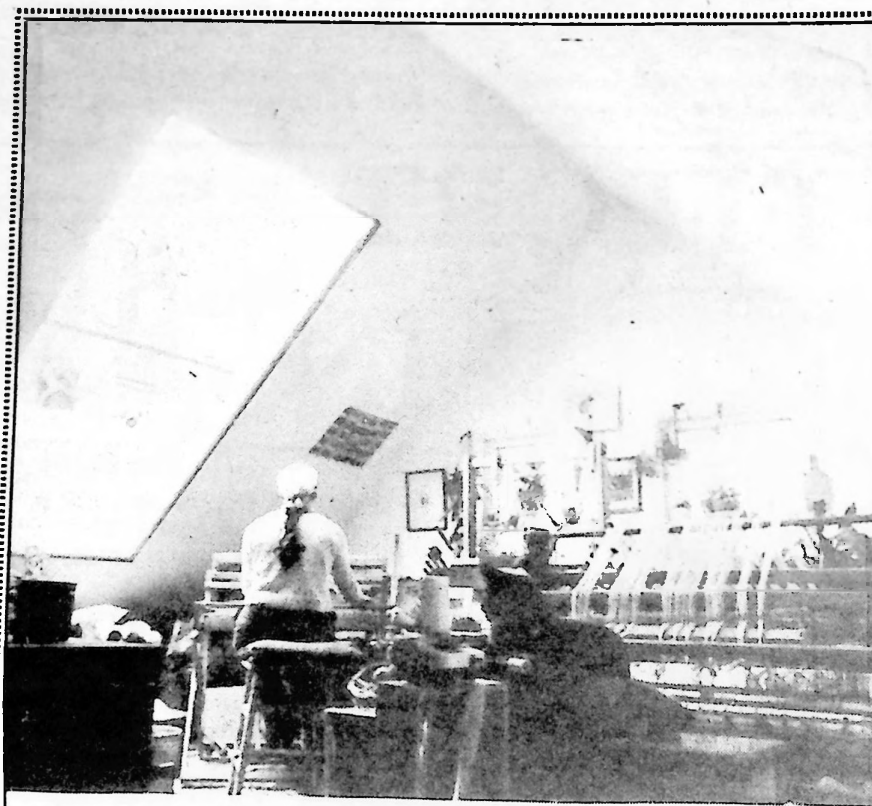
by Nancy Hazard

Making a space work well for you can be an exciting and challenging experience. As a self-employed carpenter, I have completed many renovation projects; and, I would like to offer the following suggestions for those of you who are planning to renovate.

The first, and most important step is to shop around for a carpenter with whom you feel comfortable. It is important to find someone you trust and feel comfortable sharing your home for a few weeks, or longer depending on the size of the project. Because renovation is stressful as well as being exciting-- your home is being invaded as well as being disrupted by the mess-- do not rush this step. Take your time and choose your carpenter wisely. When interviewing your prospective carpenter, you should determine if that person: (1) is a good craftsman; (2) understands design issues, such as solar energy and conservation; (3) listens to your ideas; (4) has helpful suggestions; (5) shares your aesthetic sense; (6) can project the costs of the project and make it fit your pocketbook.

After this first step is taken, the rest will be easier; you now have someone to talk with about all your renovating dreams. Your chosen carpenter can help sort out what is feasible, what suits your needs, and your pocketbook. The following is an example of how I was able to assist and work with a client in order to most efficiently and cooperatively plan her desired renovations.

Dvora, a weaver in Greenfield, had been working in a dark, musty and



Dvora at work

Photo by Nancy Hazard

cramped attic space which had been finished off many years before into two bedrooms. She needed a large, open workshop with space for a loom and good lighting, storage space for her yarns, space for measuring out the warp and for finishing off her work, as well as office space. We decided to tear out the wall dividing the attic in half, one of the knee walls, and half of the ceiling to create more floor space and a cathedral ceiling. The question of lighting was a bit

more difficult to figure out. The gable ends, facing north and south, already had windows, so adding windows to the south wall-- the best option for increasing light, and solar gain simultaneously-- was impossible. We considered installing several skylights, but the labor costs were too high. We looked at one large openable skylight, but the cost of the unit itself was too much. Finally, we decided to fabricate a single east-facing skylight, using a 4'X8' sheet of double-

walled, translucent plastic (CYRO). This material diffuses the light and ensures privacy from the next-door neighbors; moreover, CYRO gives a large amount of light for a reasonable price.

Like many of my customers, Dvora wanted to be involved in the project to cut costs, and for the experience itself. We talked about skills, costs, necessary materials, design, etc. and finally came up with a plan of what we would do together, what she would do on her own, and what I would be responsible for. This arrangement worked well as Dvora was able to cut costs and have advice and help when she needed it while I gained a helper. The project is just about finished with a few pieces of trim and the floor yet to be completed.

Nancy Hazard runs her own design and construction business, HAZARD & SUN, located in Greenfield. She specializes in energy efficient construction and cabinet work. Working closely with her clients, Nancy helps them maintain control of the project and, if they wish, develop their own carpentry skills. ■



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THIS IS IN MEMORY OF THOSE OF US WHO DIE EVERY DAY

by Elizabeth Carter @1983

This
is in memory
of those of us
who die every day
who don't tell
our bosses
no
day to day
put down
struggle 'rounds
in and out
of process
mostly out
of consideration
of land lords
so we pay
our rent
of our bodies
everyday
in offices
around the world
everyday
women of color
women of courage
say yes
meaning no
to the slow
gradual death
of their children
their womb
can no longer
keep them warm
so they
sell their bodies

This
is in memory
of those of us
who die every day

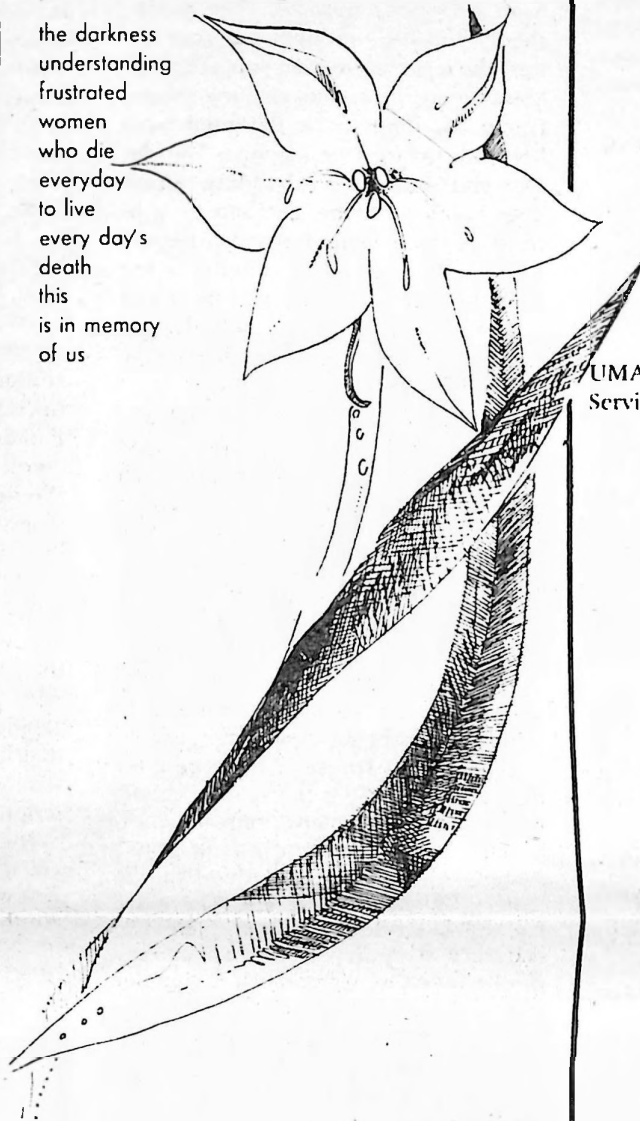
in closets
constructed
by them
and us
to suffocate
our desires
for other women
kept hidden
in heart corners
so that
we can love
and eat
our food
in relative
safety
sealed packages
of rage
hidden fears
of the marketplace
of the bed
in the heads
of pricks
everywhere
they determine
the vermin
should live
the soft
should die

This
is in memory
of those of us
who die everyday
on the tables
on their feet
our blood drips
from the stirrups
as one more
ovary drops
in to the

bucket
of tears
silencing
their fears
they ride high
on the hope
that the world
will be safe
for their kind
of democracy
that rules
our bodies
our minds
our souls

This
is in memory
of those of us
who die every day
and live
to try
and tell
about it
falling
on partially
deaf ears
ringing
from gun shots
pot shots
taken from
bomb loaded
rhetorical
responses
to irrational
fears
tears of despair
of desire
for one small
voice
piercing

the darkness
understanding
frustrated
women
who die
everyday
to live
every day's
death
this
is in memory
of us



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Thornes Marketplace

Amherst:

Jones Library
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Yellow Sun Co-op
Food for Thought Books
UMASS: Everywoman's Ctr., Health
Services, Campus Ctr., and other points

North Amherst:

Daisy's

Sunderland:

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Frontier Pizza Place

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Cumberland Farms

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Greenfield Public Library
Greenfield Community College

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Cumberland Farms
Montague Food Co-op
continued on page 10.

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Planet

continued from page 1

WW II.

A 20-megaton bomb of this type can create a crater of rubble and radioactive dust half a mile wide - say the size of downtown Northampton. For a distance of 15 miles from the blast site, say from Sunderland to Holyoke, most buildings and life would be completely destroyed. A fire storm would start and spread over 3000 square miles - everything including concrete and steel would burn and all available oxygen would be sucked up. Winds would roar at 1000 miles per hour. In a metropolitan area, 3 million people would be killed instantly.

Helen Caldicott, M.D., in an interview with the U.S. Catholic newspaper, had this to say when asked "How many people would die?": "In an all-out nuclear attack, within 30 days, 80 percent of Americans would be dead, and Canadians and Mexicans and Europeans and English and Russians and probably Chinese would most all die soon after. We're not sure about the Southern Hemisphere..."

Her response to "What are the probabilities of it happening?" was: "The Joint Chiefs of Staff predicted in 1975 that there was a 50-50 chance of nuclear war by 1985... I personally think we'll be lucky to survive the next four years, and my gut feeling inside me tells me that I'll be terribly grateful to have another summer."

"If You Love This Planet" is a plea for sanity, a plea for people to take action, to impose sanity on their governing bodies.

What can you do? Call American Friends Service Committee at 584-8975 if you want to set up a showing of this and other films on disarmament. Let your government representatives know what you want - by your votes, your letters, your attendance at rallies and protests. Join the tax resistance movement.

On April 9th at 11:00am, march in support of taxes for life, not death (see calendar).

Demand Disarmament Now. ■

House Work

continued from page 1

building codes in towns where you are considering building. Look through design books and magazines at the library.

Now, start drawing plans in the notebook, beginning with floor plans, including one for basement and second floor or loft, if the cabin is to have more than one story. Measure your major appliances and furniture and figure out where they will go. Locate windows and doors. Then draw a profile of the cabin. Make sure you have enough head room, especially in stairways and lofts. Show your plans to friends and relatives for input.

Finally, you need to make decisions about the construction. Will you use

stud, pole, or timber framing -- or a combination? How much insulation should you put in the walls, floor and ceiling? For most people, this is the time to involve a professional.

Consulting Professionals: The money spent paying a consultant can save you from expensive mistakes. The more clearly you have thought out your design, the less consultation you will need. Massachusetts does not require a single family dwelling to be designed by a licensed architect or engineer. The design you submit for a building permit does not have to be stamped by a licensed person. Plans drawn by a person with hands-on building experience are likely to have practical authenticity that is sometimes lacking in a desk-designer's plans; and, licensed builders may have a bias towards the former.

Building Supervision: Although the designer need not be licensed, a new Massachusetts regulation requires all structural building to be supervised by a licensed "construction supervisor." You must give the supervisor's license number to the building inspector when applying for a permit for new construction or renovation involving structural change. The supervisor must be on the site when any structural building or demolition is being done.

Designing a House: The process for designing a house is the same -- collect information, draw plans, consult professionals. There are hundreds of house designs on the market advertised in home and solar magazines. There are also house kits in which both plans and materials are purchased. Much money can be saved by using stock designs or kits, so these are worth investigating. Of course, a house designed yourself, just for you, is really special. If you can afford a custom designed house, you will probably want one.

Renovation: Renovating is harder than building new, not because the designing is harder, but because, if you do it yourself, the implementation may be. You must understand structure when you begin to tear out walls. When you build, you need to be a good finishing carpenter. It takes more skill and more extensive (and expensive) tools to finish an old lopsided room than to frame a new house!

A Word About Money: The cost of new materials for a tiny cabin without plumbing (say 12' X 16' with 8' X 16' loft) is about \$2000 to \$2500; if you pay for all labor, the cost will be about another \$2000 to \$2500; this totals \$4000 to \$5000 plus the land cost.

The least expensive new house that a bank will mortgage will cost about \$40,000 not including land. Most people want some extras beyond such a basic house, so even if you consider yourself fiscally conservative, you should plan for at least \$50,000. Even a \$60,000 house is considered modestly priced today. Renovation costs can go from \$10 for paint to \$100,000 to completely rebuild the house.

Anne Perkins has been a builder for several years, and is currently supervising

the construction of eight houses for low income families for an agency in Worcester County.

She hopes to write a monthly column for the VVV. Planned articles will cover ways to learn carpentry skills, maintaining your home, useful reference books and magazines, and other carpentry-related subjects. She invites readers' suggestions as to column content. Write to Anne Perkins, RFD 3, Orange, MA 01364 or call (617) 544-6385.

Letters

continued from page 2.

Dear VVV,

Women's Community Theatre has received many congratulations from community members for a recent production of the musical satire "Pitfalls in Paradise." We'd like to make certain that credit goes where credit is due. Ad Hoc Women's Productions produced the show, which is a newly formed independent women's group.

WCT has been very busy preparing an active and varied spring program. We are working to produce three separate theatre events, including "Hollandia '45", a new drama by Sarah Dreher, "Hands in the Mirror", a choreopoem that celebrates the lives of old Black women, and two works by local playwright Susan Vick, "Quandry" and "When I Was Your Age". Any one interested in working on any of these events can contact WCT, 21 Valley View Dr., Amherst.

Thanks,

Lis Brook

Valley Women's Voice	
subscription	sponsor \$25
friend - \$10	donation

Answers To Last Month's Crossword Puzzle

Across:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. lesbian | 13. PILL |
| 2. Sanger | 14. Chadwick |
| 3. androgen | 15. adenoma |
| 4. whalebone | 16. condoms |
| 5. prophylactic | 17. fibroids |
| 6. WHO | 18. fertility |
| 7. breast | 19. gamete |
| 8. vaginitis | 20. parturition |
| 9. acupuncture | 21. cystocele |
| 10. witch | 22. abstinence |
| 11. ovum | 23. DES |
| 12. yogurt | |

Down:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. flagyl | 11. AIDS |
| 2. crabs | 12. librium |
| 3. hetero | 13. swim |
| 4. depo-provera | 14. celibacy |
| 5. Holland | 15. adoption |
| 6. Comstock | 16. eve |
| 7. BOW | 17. menopause |
| 8. bicycle | 18. aikido |
| 9. pregnant | 19. aerobic |
| 10. midwife | 20. hysterectomy |

Distribution

continued from page 9.

South Amherst

John's Minimart
Hampshire College

South Hadley:

Mount Holyoke College

Shelburne Falls:

McCuskers Market

Present & Future Subscribers: You may be aware that we are getting the VVV out earlier. We intend, by September, to try to publish on the 25th of the month and mail subscriptions out at that time. This way, subscribers will receive their copies on the 1st, the same day it is distributed to local outlets.

"The Olivia extravaganza at Carnegie Hall was clearly much more than a visual event. Much more than a political event. Much more, even, than a cultural event. "As a milestone of women's accomplishments in the last decade, as a showcase for Meg, Cris and friends, ... it was a moment not to be forgotten."

Susan Wilson



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Available at several area outlets, including Back Room Records in Amherst; Main Street, Platterpus and Womanfire in Northampton; Music Store in Greenfield; Platterpus in Westfield. If you do not see the album, ask for it!

Announcements

A Jewish Cultural Festival has been organized by Khevre, the Northampton-Amherst Chapter of New Jewish Agenda. Khevre provides both a progressive voice in the Jewish community and a Jewish voice among progressives. The Festival runs from April 9 - 19. It includes films, speakers, poetry, music, food and dance in presentations of different forms of both Ashkenazic and Sephardic Jewish culture. Please see the calendar for information on these events.

Khevre's costs are at least \$1,000 for this festival. They are asking for donations in any amount. In addition to supporting this group's various efforts, including their activities in support of Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, you will receive the monthly Khevre newsletter. For more info: Khevre c/o D. Fischman, 97 State St. Northampton, MA, 01060 or call other Khevre members at 586-0947 or 773-4706.

Rolling Thunder Speaks. Traditional Native American spiritual leader appearing Friday, May 6. Fine Arts Center, UMass. 8 pm. Tickets: Fine Arts Center or mail SASE to: Commuter Area Gov't, 404 Student Union, UMass, Amherst MA 01003. Also at: Food For Thought Books and Beyond Words Bookshop. (For these locations, consult their VWV ads.)

Local Women of The Center for Popular Economics is offering training in traditional and radical economics. Open to all lesbians and gay men, limit 25 people. Included topics: inflation, racism and sexism, international monetary system, Reaganomics, and others. Starts April 24, 9 am - 5 pm; continues evenings 7 - 9:30 pm April 26, May 3 and 10. Will be held in accessible space in Northampton. Sliding scale fee and some scholarships. Registration deadline April 15. Info: 545-0743.

For Survivors of Rape: Free counseling/advocacy offered by Everywoman's Center, UMass. To reach a counselor/advocate, call the crisis line: 545-0800 any time, including nights, weekends, holidays. If you are interested in becoming a counselor/advocate and are available through the summer months, please call Catherine Roach (EWC): 545-0883.

Aid to Incarcerated Mothers is looking for volunteers to provide transportation for children from the Springfield/Holyoke area to visit their mothers in prison. A ONE YEAR commitment of 5 - 10 hours/week is needed. Dependability and consistency are essential for this program. Volunteers will meet together once a month to get on-going support from each other and from the Volunteer Coordinator. Women who volunteer will be fully reimbursed for travel expenses. If interested, contact Debbie Wald, 549-5178, evenings and weekends.

"Dancing the Undoing," a local women's dance/theater collective, will be giving performances throughout April to benefit Necessities, a battered women's shelter. Look for posters for complete information.

"Black Studies/Women's Studies: An Overdue Partnership." Conference, April 22-23, UMass. Speakers include Bernice Reagan, June Jordan, Eleanor Leacock, Bettye C. Thomas, Shirley Chisholm. Registration: \$10 payable by April 12. For brochure/registration form call (413) 545-1922.

The 1983 National Women's Music Festival will be June 3-5 in Bloomington, Ind. Festival features concerts, workshops, networking opportunities, fine arts, performing arts, literature, etc. Registration by May 1. Call Jane Schliesman (812) 333-1195 or write NWMF, Box 1568, Bloomington, IN 47402.

The Displaced Homemakers Program of Hampshire county serves women who have worked in the home for a number of years and now need to enter the labor market. Services provided include individual job counseling sessions and workshops in topics such as: confidence building, interest and skills assessment, resume writing, interviewing, and job search techniques. Resource and referral services are also provided. To register or obtain more information, call Lyndell Rowe at 584-9111 weekdays.

Women Power and Cinderella, a workshop for women dealing with their own power. We will look at issues such as fear of independence and the "waiting" and "come find me" syndrome instilled in us through cultural conditioning. Workshop Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Bring lunch) \$15 - 30 sliding fee. For location or other info, call 253-5626 or leave a message with the Nutritional Counseling Center, 253-2526. Limited enrollment.

Have a drug problem? Want to stop? Narcotics Anonymous wants to help you. Meetings every Friday at 8:30 pm, Rm. 267 Hills South, UMass, Amherst.

Year-round residences for artists of all disciplines, located on 150 acres woodlands. Summer children's program to support artists with parenting responsibilities. For info contact Helene Kender, Assoc. Dir., CUMMINGTON COMMUNITY OF THE ARTS, Cummington, MA 01026. (413) 634-2172.

National Women's Studies Association will focus on "Feminist Education: Quality and Equality" at its 5th annual convention June 26-30, Ohio State Univ. For registration info call (614) 422-0085 or write Convention Office Center for Women's Studies, Ohio State Univ., Columbus, OH 43210.

Trillium, a directory of services by and for women, is now available at Everywoman's Center at UMass; Womanfyre Books, Northampton; World Eye Book Shop, Greenfield; or by mail order for \$2.50 from Trillium, P.O. Box 257, Sunderland, MA 01375. This unique directory has listings including accountants, artists, carpenters, hairdressers, therapists and many others. You can only support women's businesses by knowing WHO is in business.

Workshop About Children's Sexual Assault And Prevention: April 27, 7 pm, CC UMass, Rm 168. Free. Sponsored by the Educator/Advocate Program (Everywoman's Center) and Men Against Violence Against Women. The presentation will be led by Geraldine Crisci, MSW, with the Franklin/Hampshire Mental Health Services and Project Director of Personal Safety Curriculum of the National Center of Child Abuse and Neglect.

"What Should I Do?" Elfin Puppet Theatre production for children to make them aware of their right not to be abused and to identify resources available to them. First show at 1 pm for children aged 5-6. Second show for children aged 7-10, at 2 pm.

"Women and Office Automation in the 80's," a series of lunchtime workshops, will be offered Tuesdays 12-1, UMass CC Rm 811 B. Workshop schedule:

April 12: Health Effects of Office Automation - Dorothy Hayden
April 19: "New Technology-Whose Progress?" - film and discussion
April 26: Job Stress in the Office - Myra Hindus and Betsy Hamilton

All community and University members are welcome. The workshops are sponsored by the Working Women's Task Force of the Everywoman's Center, co-sponsored by the Labor Relations Center and the University Staff Association (USA/MTA). All workshops are free. Info: Myra Hindus 545-0883.

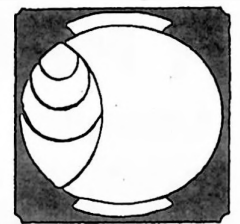
"Career Information," a series of four lunchtime workshops, will be offered Thursdays 12-1, UMass, CC. Workshop schedule:

April 14: Job Search Strategies - Shari O'Brien - Rm 911
April 21: Interviewing Skills - Shari O'Brien - Rm 903
April 28: Resume Writing - Alice Smith - Rm 911
May 5: Finding Job Opportunities - Alice Smith - Rm 911

All community and University members welcome. The workshops are sponsored by the Working Women's Task Force of the Everywoman's Center. Workshops are free. For info: Myra Hindus 545-0883

Introductory Astrology, a course with focus on relationships, starting April 4, running 12 weeks. Monday nights 7 - 9:30, Northampton. Fee per session, \$4-7, sliding scale. Call Ellen: 774-4515 or 545-2651 (Tu,Th,Fr only).

Healing with Flower Remedies - An introductory weekend workshop to enable you to begin using flower essences for yourself and friends. April 16 and 17, Montague. Carpooling available. Fee is \$30 - 45, sliding scale. Call Ellen: 771-4515 or 545-2651 (Tu/Th/Fr only).



Clay Lady Productions

presents

MEG CHRISTIAN

April 15
8 pm
Lebanon
Opera
House



Lebanon, NH

\$6 gen admission



RIS WILLIAMSON

April 24, 8 pm
J.M. Greene Hall
Northampton, MA
\$6 gen admission

ROBIN FLOWER



April 25
7 & 10 pm

the Iron Horse
Northampton, MA
\$5 gen admission

TICKETS

Robin Iron Horse
"The Iron Horse"
April 25, 7 & 10 pm
or
Send check & SASE to:
20 Center St. N Hamp MA

**FRIDAY APRIL 1**

★ THE VVV IS OUT -- ON TIME! For how YOU can keep this paper coming to you and help it to grow, contact us: VVV, P.O. Box 392, Northampton, MA 01061.

SUNDAY APRIL 3

★ Crescendo Productions and the Smith College Women's Resource Center present *Alive!* at 8 pm. Sage Hall, Smith. Support Crescendo's first solo production!!

MONDAY APRIL 4

★ Discussion of human rights ordinance of Northampton. General Meeting for all interested. Nielson Library, Browsing Room, Smith College, 7pm.

THURSDAY APRIL 7

★ An Evening of Classical Guitar with Leslie Kenney. Grace Church, Amherst, MA 8 pm. Info: 253-7082.

★ Forum on "Women in Philosophy." Speakers: Kathryn Addelson and Elizabeth Spelman of Smith Coll. Philosophy Dept. Smith College Women's Resource Center. 7:30 pm.

FRIDAY APRIL 8

★ Narcotics Anonymous Meeting. Room 267 Hills South, UMass. 8:30 pm.

★ GALA's Film Festival: "Witches and Faggots - Dykes and Poofers" and "In the Best Interests of the Children." Info: 586-5273.

SATURDAY APRIL 9

★ GALA's Film Festival. See April 8.

★ Photo Exhibit by Mariam Leader, April 9-30. Town Farm Restaurant in The Granary, Main St., Northampton.

★ Tag Sale Benefit for production of "A Late Snow." 159 Conz St., Northampton. 10 am. Items for donation may be delivered earlier.

★ March in support of "Taxes for Life", sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee. Begins 11 am at Bridge St. School, proceeding to Pulaski Park for noon rally.

SATURDAY APRIL 10

★ "Stories of the Hebrew People": Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb. Jewish Cultural Festival. Present Stage, 19 Hawley Street, Northampton. 7:30 pm.

★ "The Myths of Deterrence." Prof Allan Krass. First Congregational Church, Amherst. 7:30 - 9 pm.

MONDAY APRIL 11

★ "Roots of Jewish Radicalism": Alan Solomonow. Jewish Cultural Festival. Nielson Library Browsing Room. Smith College. 7:30 pm. (wheelchair accessible.)

★ Debbie Fier, jazz pianist, at the Iron Horse, Northampton.

★ Pioneer Valley War Tax Resistance three-day fast begins. Meeting at Unitarian Church, Greenfield. 7:30 pm. Info: 586-2648 or 774-2134. See Announcements.

TUESDAY APRIL 12

★ Catherine D'Amato at the Iron Horse Cafe, Northampton.

★ Free Workshop on pre-menstrual syndrome (PMS) offered by Isis. Bangs Community Center, 7 pm.

★ Mediterranean Jewish Benefit Dinner. Jewish Cultural Festival. Feast and Folly, Pleasant Street, Northampton, 6 pm. Middle Eastern Jewish food and entertainment. \$6.00. Advance tickets available at Good Things Collective. (wheelchair accessible)

★ Tuesday Lunchtime Workshop Series: "Women and Office Automation in the 80's." See Announcements P. 11.

THURSDAY APRIL 14

★ Slide Show on Neve Shalom moshav. Judy Wish. Jewish Cultural Festival. 4pm. Campus Center, UMass. Repeated at 7:30 pm, 15 Seelye, Smith College, (4 pm presentation wheelchair accessible)

★ Thursday Lunchtime Workshops: "Career Information." See Announcements P. 11.

FRIDAY APRIL 15

★ GALA Film Festival: "Pink Triangles," "Greetings from Washington, D.C.," and "A Comedy in Six Unnatural Acts." Campus Center, UMass, 7 and 9 pm.

★ Women Outdoors Night Hike. Rutland Brook, MA. Info: 584-4997.

★ Narcotics Anonymous Meeting. Rm 267 Hills South, UMass. 8:30 pm.

★ Women's Dance to benefit the Valley Women's Rugby Club. The Red Barn, Hampshire College. \$2.50.

★ Clay Lady productions presents Meg Christian at the Lebanon Opera House, Lebanon, N.H., 8 pm. See display ad.

SATURDAY APRIL 16

★ GALA Film Festival. See April 15.

★ Women Outdoors Hike to Mt. Tom Reservation. 9 am - 4 pm. Info: 323-4876.

★ Womancraft II workshop for women who have completed Womancraft I. Northampton, 10 am - 5 pm. For info call Jean-Janani Erlbaum, 584-1000.

★ Third World Theater Series. "Yellow Fever." Bowker Auditorium, UMass. 8 pm. \$3 - general, \$2 - student. Free Childcare, call 545-0190.

★ Coffeehouse with Judy Polan. Jewish Cultural Festival. Northampton Unitarian Society, 220 Main Street, 8pm. \$2.

SUNDAY APRIL 17

★ Womanshelter/Companeras Walkathon to benefit the shelter. 10 kilometer walk starts at Holyoke High School, 12 noon. Childcare provided. For info and sponsor forms call 586-2647 or 536-1629.

★ Women Outdoors Potluck Dinner/Meeting/Slide Show. Everywoman's Center, UMass. Info: 774-5924.

★ Yiddish Folk Tales: Children's puppet show and workshop: Sarah Elston/Elfin Puppet Theater. Jewish Cultural Festival. 2pm. Place to be announced. \$3.

★ Concert of Klezmer Music. Jewish Cultural Festival. Place to be announced. 7:30 pm. Info: 586-2388.

MONDAY APRIL 18

★ Ferron with Gal at Iron Horse, Northampton. Check for time and price.

TUESDAY APRIL 19

★ Betsy Rose and the "Laughing and Loving in the Nuclear Age" comedy team. Benefit concert for the American Friends Service Committee Peace Development Fund and Interhelp. UMass Campus Center. \$4.

★ Maxine Feldman and the Stonewall Chorale Singers. UConn Law School Auditorium, West Hartford. 8:30 pm. Ticket info: (203) 522-1607. Childcare reservations: (203) 233-2408. Hall is wheelchair accessible. Concert will be signed for the hearing impaired.

★ Slide show on The Chochin Jews of South India: Barbara Johnson. Jewish Cultural Festival. Jewish Community of Amherst, Main and East Streets, Amherst. 7:30 pm.

★ Lunchtime Workshop: "Women and Office Automation in the 80's." See Announcements P. 11.

THURSDAY APRIL 21

★ Lunchtime Workshop: "Career Information." See Announcements P. 11.

FRIDAY APRIL 22

★ "Sensitivity is STILL Not Enough." Conference addressing lesbian and gay issues. UConn School of Social Work, West Hartford, CT. Info: (203) 522-1607.

★ "Black Studies/Women Studies: An Overdue Partnership." Conference. UMass. Shirley Chisom and others. Registration/info: See Announcements.

★ Narcotics Anonymous Meeting. Rm 267 Hills South, UMass. 8:30 pm.

★ Women Surviving: Maintaining Life in the Death Camps: Deborah Seidman. Jewish Cultural Festival. Annabelle's Room, Thorne's Market, Northampton (wheelchair accessible).

SATURDAY APRIL 23

★ Clearing Charkas, one day workshop with Lorraine Lipani. 11-5 pm, Northampton. Info: (413) 665-7757. See display ad.

★ "Sensitivity is STILL not enough." Conference. See April 22.

★ "Black Studies/Women Studies: An Overdue Partnership." Conference. See April 22 and Announcements.

★ Kate Clinton fumerist (feminist humorist) will be performing in a benefit for *Trivia* magazine, 8:00 pm. in Pratt Auditorium at Mount Holyoke College. \$3 - \$5 sliding scale. For information call 534-7956.

SUNDAY APRIL 24

★ Women Outdoors Hike (Mt. Holyoke Range) and Potluck. Info: 586-0911.

★ Clay Lady Productions presents Chris Williamson at J.M. Greene Hall, Smith College, Northampton, 8 pm. See display ad.

MONDAY APRIL 25

★ Clay Lady Productions presents Robin Flower at the Iron Horse, Northampton, 7 & 10 pm. See display ad.

TUESDAY APRIL 26

★ Lunchtime Workshop: "Women and Office Automation in the 80's." See Announcements P. 11.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 27

★ Free workshop about children's sexual assault and prevention. Rm 168, Campus Center, UMass. 7 pm. (See announcements.)

THURSDAY APRIL 28

★ Lunchtime Workshop: "Career Information." See Announcements P. 11.

FRIDAY APRIL 29

★ American Friends Service Committee 15th Anniversary Fundraising Dinner. Edwards Church, Northampton. 6:30 pm. Ticket/reservation info: 584-3975.

SATURDAY APRIL 30

★ Puppet productions for children, aged 5-10, to make them aware of their right not to be abused and to identify their available resources. See announcements for time, place.

★ Women Outdoors Bike Trip. 15 - 20 miles, Goshen/Chesterfield area. 10 am - 4 pm. Info: 584-8975.

SUNDAY MAY 1

★ Women Outdoors Mt. Toby Wildflower and Forage Hike. Call 774-5784 for info.

★ Mothers' and Children's May Day Hike at Rutland Brook, Petersham. Info: (617) 249-7694.

THURSDAY MAY 5

★ Lunchtime Workshop: "Career Information." See Announcements P. 11.

FRIDAY MAY 6

★ "Rolling Thunder Speaks." Traditional Native American spiritual leader. See Announcements for info.